"A Multitude Snatched From the Kingdom of Darkness"

Revelation 7: 9-17

September 13, 2020

Verse 9 - 10

By the Grace of God, a Great Multitude Are Saved!

God saves a great multitude from every people group. What does this tell me?

God is not a "face looker"
He is not prejudiced!!

Peter, a prejudiced Jew, makes an amazing statement - Acts 10: 28 and 34

"God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean"

"In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality" (an acceptor of the face!!)

All humanity is made in the image of God *(the imago dei)* and are highly valued!

Hebrew for Christians:

"Torah states that God made man and woman Tselem Elohim - in the image of God - Genesis 1: 28

Every human life is holy, unique, and worthy of profound respect, compassion and understanding."

Our world, today, has used race to polarize mankind into warring camps - *this is SIN!!*

We are <u>*one*</u> race - *the human race!*

Hear Paul on Mars Hill debating philosophers of his day - <u>Acts17: 24-27</u>

People, devoid of God's ways, fall into competing ethnos groups, ethnicity and color

This is a man thing - *this is sin,* not a God thing!!

Remember: It is *sin, not skin!!*

How do I know God loves all people?

John 3: 16

Verse 11 - 12

Rejoicing in Heaven over those saved!

All of heaven rejoices when someone is saved - Luke 15: 10

What kind of entrance into heaven do you think these believers had?

2 Peter 1: 11

Make no mistake, we will know why we are there - *only Jesus!!*

HE gives you strength to live this life!

HE gives you strength to stand through the tumult and blizzards of life!!

HE is the one who will get you safely home!

In the end, *IT IS ALL JESUS,* and we will know it!!

Verse 13 - 14

The martyred dead are identified

These are from the Great Tribulation

The work of the 144,000 starts at the beginning of the Tribulation, but why?

The souls under the altar martyred for their faith - Revelation 6: 9

Recall that sin brings death and separation - **physical death and spiritual death** - <u>Romans 6: 23</u>

The believer is made clean and pure by *the blood of Jesus*

You, too, will be given a white robe because you have been washed by *the blood of the Lamb!*

Verse 15 - 17

God's promises to this multitude

A special place - God will encamp them, surround them, tabernacle with them

A place of rest from earthly traumas, but also a place of privileged service to our God!

Continual protection - Protected for eternity by our Great Shepherd, *no fear in heaven!*

This applies to our lives here:
No fear, *"Fear not!"*
No worry, *"Trust Me"*

Jesus' promise to you, *"I am with you always, even to the end of the age"*
Matthew 28: 20

A wonderful provision - The Lamb shall feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters - Psalm 23

While we are here, do not forsake *"the fountain of living waters"* - Jeremiah 2:13

A blessed peace - God will wipe away every tear from their eyes - *there will be no crying in heaven!*

CLOSING: A Multitude Snatched from the Kingdom of Darkness

Why all the upheaval in our world?

The god of this age, Satan, knows his time is short

Demonic influences have entered the vacuum created by the removal of the True God

The result: People in mass doing what is right in their own eyes

Satan's goal:

- A one-world government that he will control, devoid of God

- To attain this, Christians must be suppressed or eliminated

I believe we are on the precipice of being extracted from the chaos, *protected from the wrath of God!*

Think about this:

Those who make the decision to believe and receive the gift of salvation will live with God forever, in peace and productivity, satisfaction, contentment, and adventure *that will never end!*

FACT:

God is still saving now!!

This is our time; *this is the best of times!* So use your time wisely in the things that matter!

REMEMBER:

This life is not about you! *It is about our Lord,* so live all out for Him!!

YOU WILL BE FOREVER GLAD YOU DID!

Until next time . . . .

Keep looking up, *your redemption is drawing near!!*